

"Gathering Flowers for a Delicate Girl"

Nikolaj Recke

Galleri Kirke Sonnerup/Stalke Galleri
Kirke Sonnerup

15.02.03 to 29.03.03

"Gathering Flowers for a Delicate Girl"

an exhibition with new works by Nikolaj Recke.

In 2002, Nikolaj Recke travelled to the Malaysian rainforest to observe one of nature's countless wonders: the mating dance of fireflies. The dance took place as the male fireflies sat in their thousands in a tree by the riverbank, and as soon as a single female flew past, they began blinking synchronously to attract her. Recke documented this phenomenon in the video *Dialogue II*, in which he attempted to "talk" with or seduce the fireflies using a lighter.

The play of light was also the central element in the exhibition's third video, *Lunatic*. Through a large telescope mounted in an observatory, Recke filmed close-ups of a full moon, which he projected onto one of the gallery walls, so that the room was enveloped in a mysterious glow that either allowed the werewolf or love's eye to appear in the viewer.

Like many of Recke's earlier works, the three new video installations were characterized by a minimalistic sensibility and a humorous, romantic undertone. At the same time, they continued his exploration of the world as a place for unfiltered communication and artistic reflection.

The exhibition also featured a series of new computer drawings by Nikolaj Recke. The drawings' motifs included Recke's artist colleagues, evening reflections in a pool of water (*Perfect Day* series), and fictional flowers such as the world's largest flower *Rafflesia arnoldii* and Tobacco Rose, a love declaration to cigarettes.





Installation views showing video projection, photographic works and painted portraits from Nikolaj Recke's exhibition *Gathering flowers for a delicate girl*, Galleri Kirke Sonnerup, 2003

